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Borough of Heywood.



Annual Report

on the

Health of the Borough

for year ended

December 31st, 1948.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

Heywood,

August, 1949.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

Heywood,

August, 1949.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR

(COUNCILLOR CHARLES CRAPPER HOLT).

CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN H. B. BEARON, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: COUNCILLOR W. FLEWKER

„ J. S. HARGREAVES, J.P., C.A.

„ H. F. JEFFERY, M.B., J.P., C.A.

„ J. PERRY

„ C. WATSON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR W. BENTLEY, J.P.

„ W. HEYWOOD

„ MRS. HUNT

„ MRS. WILTON

„ W. PICKUP

„ MRS. S. J. BENTLEY

„ REV. G. KERSHAW

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :—

*JAMES BROOKS,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTORS :—

*J. BUCKLEY, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., (Food),
(Commenced 1/7/48).

*J. STANDRING, M.S.I.A., A.R., SAN., I.

LADY HEALTH VISITORS :—

*Mrs. M. B. DAY, (Resigned 31/12/48).

*Miss M. THISTLETHWAITE,
(Commenced 1/12/48).

*Miss J. WILD.

SCHOOL NURSE :—

Mrs. A. TONGE (Temp. Part Time.

Commenced 1/6/48).

CLERKS :— J. F. PARKER, (Resigned 4/7/48).

C. L. TAYLOR, (Resigned 15/8/48).

Miss J. HALL, (Commenced (6/9/48).

CONSULTING OBSTETRICIAN :—

M. EVANS, M.D., M.R.C.O.G.

CONSULTING OCULIST AND AURIST :—

Dr. P. A. HARRY, M.D., D.P.H.

* Contribution to salary is made under the Public Health Acts or
by Exchequer Grants.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

HEALTH OFFICES,

HEYWOOD.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my nineteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough.

The following are the principal facts in the general vital statistics for the year :—

Population : The estimated population for Heywood during 1948 is 25,120.

Birth Rate : The Birth Rate for 1948 is 18·2. This is 0·5 less than the average of the last five years.

Death Rate : The Crude Death Rate for 1948 is 12·5, showing a decrease of 2·4 as compared with the average for the last five years.

Infantile Mortality : Infantile Mortality for 1948 is 35 per 1,000 births, being 15 less than the average for the last five years.

Total live births were 100 less than 1947.

There were 17 still births.

Maternal Mortality : There were 3 Maternal deaths.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to all those who have assisted me in the compilation of this Report, to the Staff of the Department, and to the Members of the Committee for their kind support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES BROOKS,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

General Statistics.

Area (acres)...	8,342
Population (Census, 1931) ...	25,967
Estimated Population (1948) ...	25,120
Number of inhabited houses (Estimated, 1946)...	7,973
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1931) ...	7,294
Rateable Value (31st December, 1948)...	£152,381
Sum represented by a penny rate (31/12/48) ...	£596-16-0

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Males	Females	Total
BIRTHS in 1948—Legitimate...	212	201	} 454
Illegitimate...	28	13	
DEATHS in 1948— ...	149	164	313
STILLBIRTHS in 1948— ...	6	11	17
Deaths from Puerperal Causes...	...	...	3
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	35
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	31
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	73

RATES PER THOUSAND OF POPULATION.

	Birth-rate.	Crude Death-rate.	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
Mean of 5 years 1943—1947 ...	18·7	14·9	0·27	50
Year—1944 ...	18·4	15·2	0·21	53
1945 ...	17·3	14·9	0·34	37
1946 ...	18·7	14·4	0·28	59
1947 ...	22·3	14·7	0·20	45
1948 ...	18·2	12·5	0·56	35
Increase or Decrease in 1948 on Mean of 5 yrs. 1943-1947	-0·5	-2·4	+0·29	-15
Previous year ...	-4·1	-2·2	+0·36	-10
England and Wales, 1948	17·9	10·8	0·51	34

Social Conditions.

The economic condition of the town has improved greatly.

Birth and Death Rates.

The numbers of births and deaths are those REGISTERED during the calendar year (*i.e.* 1st JAN.—31st DEC. INCLUSIVE) and are corrected for inward and outward transfers. They will differ therefore from uncorrected figures compiled locally month by month.

The Birth Rate shows an decrease of 4·1 as compared with last year, the actual number of the births during 1948 being 100 less than in 1947.

In addition to the 454 births registered for the year, there were 17 Stillbirths registered, giving a rate of 36 per 1000 total births.

On the basis of 313 deaths the Crude Death Rate was 12·5 per 1,000 of the population as estimated by the Registrar-General.

Approximately one death in every nine has been certified as due to Cancer, the death rate from this particular disease being 1·44 per thousand and, compared with the year 1947, shows an decrease of 0·85 per thousand. It should be noted that of the 36 persons who died from Cancer, 24 were aged 55 or over.

Detailed figures of the cause of death of the 16 infants under 12 months of age are given in the table on page 31.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS AT ALL AGES.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	NET DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF RESIDENTS WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.										
	All ages	0—1	1—2	2—5	5—15	15—25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 upw'ds
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers..	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria .....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
T.B. Respiratory System	13	...	...	...	...	4	2	2	2	2	1
„ Other Forms	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	..	...
Syphilitic diseases	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	1
Influenza.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Measles .....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio myelitis and polio encephalitis.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute infective encephalitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer of buccal cavity & œsop..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
„ stomach and duodenum	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ breast... ..	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...
„ all other sites.....	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	10	12
Diabetes	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Intra Cranial vascular lesions..	46	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	6	35
Heart Disease	97	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	15	74
Other diseases of circulatory system	18	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	5	10
Bronchitis	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	8	18
Pneumonia	13	6	..	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	3
Other respiratory diseases	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Digestive diseases	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Nephritis	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3
Puerperal & post-abort. sepsis ..	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other maternal causes.....	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...
Premature birth	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital mal-birth inj. infant disease	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicide	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Road traffic accidents	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other violent causes.....	3	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
All other causes.. ..	12	...	...	...	1	...	2	..	2	3	4
	313	16	...	...	4	7	9	15	31	56	175

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

All agreements for hospital treatment were terminated on July 4th, 1948.

Institutional provision for unmarried Mothers, Infants and Homeless children in the District.

The Diocesan Maternity Home, Simpson Hill, with accommodation for 14 unmarried mothers and their babies, was re-opened in June 1948.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Ambulance Service both for infectious cases and non-infectious cases was transferred to the County Council on July 5th, 1948.



Clinic and Treatment Centres.

Name.	Situation.	Accommodation.	By whom Provided.
1—Maternity & Child Welfare Centre.	Taylor St.	Waiting Room, Weighing Room, Consultation Room, Perambulator Shelter, Lavatory.	Local Health Authority. To July 4th, 1948.
2—Moulding Chapel	Birtle		
3—Council School	Heap Bridge		
School Clinic.	Taylor St.	Waiting Room, Treatment Room, Consultation Room, Lavatory.	Lancashire County Council.
Dental Clinic.	Taylor St.	Waiting Room, Treatment Room, Recovery Room, Lavatory.	Lancashire County Council.
Eye Clinic.	Taylor St.	Waiting Room, Treatment Room, Recovery Room, Lavatory.	Lancashire County Council.

Clinic and Treatment Centres other than above to July 4th 1948

Name.	Situation.	By whom Provided
Venereal Disease Clinic,	Rochdale,	Local Authority.
do. do.	Bury,	do.
do. do.	Manchester,	do.
Tuberculosis Dispensary,	Rochdale,	Lancashire C. C.
Tuberculosis Dispensary & X-Ray Treatment	Ashton-u-Lyne,	do.

Public Health Officials of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health :

James Brooks, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Part-time S.M.O.

Sanitary Inspectors :

J. BUCKLEY, M.S.I.A., R.S.I. (Food)

(Commenced 1/7/48).

J. Standring, CERT., S.I.B., A.R. SAN.I.

Health Visitors : J. Wild.

M. B. Day.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

GENERAL.

The District Nursing Association provide the services of two Queen's Nurses who visit patients at home.

The Association is affiliated to the County Nursing Association and after July 4th, 1948 became part of the County Council Nursing Service.

Midwives Act, 1936 :—

This Authority, which is not a Supervising Authority under the Midwives Act, is embodied in the Lancashire County Council Scheme which provides a domiciliary service of salaried midwives.

The County is divided into 21 "Midwifery Districts", and the Heywood Area is in No. 3 District.

Four Midwives have been appointed by the Lancashire County Council for the Heywood area. The Midwives are allotted on the basis of 80 cases per annum per midwife.

The Midwives reside in the Borough. and are on the telephone at Their Residences.

An important feature of this arrangement is that it ensures increased co-operation between midwives and the Maternity and Child Welfare Service.

The appointed Midwives attend the Ante Natal Clinic.

Legislation in force.

		Operative from
Local Acts.	Heywood Corporation Acts, 1883, 1889, 1899. Heywood Corporation Act, 16/8/1909.	
Local Orders.	Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops Order,	July, 1907.
General Adoptive Acts.	Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890. Sect. 4. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. Part 3. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. Part 2. Sections 15, 16, 19, 20 and 22, 28-33. Public Health Act, 1925 :— Part 2, sections 13-19, 21-33, and 35.	8th July, 1925. 1891. 11th Sep., 1914. May 1st, 1926.
Lancs. Cty. Council.	Rivers Board and General Powers Act.	1938.
Bye-laws relating to Public Health.	1932, Relating to :— Houses-let-in-Lodgings, Market, Common Lodging Houses, Nuisances and Cleansing, etc., Removal of house refuse, Slaughter Houses, Nursing Homes,	28th Nov., 1932. do. do. do. do. do. 29th May, 1929.
	Good Rule and Government re Prevention of spitting on Paved Footways.	13th Mar., 1935.



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply to the Borough is provided by the Heywood and Middleton Water Board.

The supply is derived from upland surface water. The whole of the gathering grounds have been acquired by the Board and the water is passed through sand filters and lime filters. It further receives an admixture of lime to prevent any plumbo-solvent action.

The supply is sufficient, constant, and of good quality.

The number of dwelling houses supplied direct is 7,743, no stand pipes being in existence.

Copy of Analyst's Report—Bacteriological Examination. dated 29/5/1948.

Organisms growing on Yeastrel Agar
Cultivated for 2 days at 37° C.

Total - 0 per 0 c.c. of water.

Coli-Aerogenes Bacteria.

Found in	—
Not found in	50
No. per 100 c.c.	0

Report :—This sample is of thoroughly sound bacteriological quality and free from lead contamination.

Copy of Analyst's Report—Chemical Examination.
dated 29/5/1948.

	Parts per 100,000
Total solids	7·6
Combined Chlorine	1·1
Total hardness	4·0
Temporary hardness.....	1·0
Permanent hardness.....	3·0
Toxic metals (Lead, etc.)	nil.
Ammoniacal nitrogen	nil.
Albuminoid nitrogen.....	0·0005
Nitrous nitrogen (nitrites)	nil.
Nitric nitrogen (nitrates)	0·04
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 26·7° C. ...	0·008
Hazen Number :	units 10
p. H. Value.....	7·0

Remarks :—A potable water, of low salinity and “hardness” and of a very high degree of organic purity and of wholesome bacteriological quality.

The Bacteriological and Chemical Examinations were carried out by Messrs. Melling & Ardern, Analytical Chemists.

Closet Accommodation.

The following table gives the accurate number of all types of closets in the Borough, together with the conversions from the conservancy system to the fresh water carriage system for the past ten years.

Year	Conversions to F.W.C's. from			Privy Middens Abolished	Closet Accommodation Remaining				Privy Middens Remaining
	Waste Water Closets	Pail Closets	Privy Closets		Waste Water Closets	Pail Closets	Privy Closets	Fresh Water Closets	
1939	23	10	5	4	2581	257	191	6480	121
1940	4	3	—	—	2551	254	191	6547	121
1941	2	—	—	2	2543	245	183	6549	119
1942	—	1	1	1	2565	261	170	6550	97
1943	3	1	3	1	2558	260	167	6543	96
1944	1	—	—	—	2553	260	167	6547	96
1945	2	1	4	2	2551	259	163	6557	94
1946	25	8	1	1	2526	251	162	6614	93
1947	7	1	21	12	2519	250	141	6697	81
1948	21	14	82	40	2498	236	59	6798	41

It will be noted that 295 privy or pail closets yet remain to be converted to the Fresh Water System.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse is deposited by house holders either

- (a) in the 41 middens,
- (b) in the 562 dry ashpits,
- (c) in the 6,516 movable Ashbins which are now in existence.

Collection is carried out if in (a) along with the excreta every 1—5 weeks ; if in (b) when necessary ; and (c) 1-2 weeks.

Disposal of refuse is provided for either at the Destructor Works, where it is part screened and part burnt, or at 2 tips situated at suitable outlying sites.

The number of houses at which movable ashbins have been provided during the year is 889, of these 222 ashbins were provided in lieu of 95 ashpits abolished.

It will be noted that the unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation consists of :—

- 59 Privy Closetets.
- 236 Pail closets.
- 2498 Waste water closets.

These figures are very high, and although progress has been satisfactory in the past, it now tends to show a decline, a contributory cause of which is the lack of sewers in outlying districts, but a large proportion can be converted to the water carriage system and every opportunity must be taken of effecting this.

The number of waste water closets diminishes slowly, and although they may not give rise to the same amount of trouble, they are obsolete and liable to become foul smelling, and steps should be taken to improve this state of affairs.

The time has arrived when Ashpits should be eliminated and replaced by the more hygienic galvanised metal ashbins. Together with the removal of these foul smelling fly infested structures, a greater effort should be made to provide an all round weekly refuse collection service.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is a public swimming bath in the Borough provided by the Local Authority.

During the year a new filtration and sterilization plant has been installed for purification of the water in the swimming bath.

There is no privately owned swimming bath or pool in the Borough.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA DURING 1948

I am obliged to the Sanitary Inspector for the following information :—

1. General Inspections, etc.

(1)	No. of premises visited	3883
(2)	Defects or Nuisances discovered... ..	669
(3)	„ „ „ abated	461
(4)	No. of Informal Notices served	312
(5)	„ Statutory „ „ P.H. Act 1936 Sect. 39	5
(6)	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 45	2
(7)	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 50	1
(8)	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 56	1
(9)	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 75	1
(10)	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 91/93	13
(11)	„ Legal Proceedings taken	1

2. Nature and result of the Inspections.

(a) The following is a summary of the inspections carried out :—

No. of Inspections of Slaughter-houses	—
„ „ Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops... ..	122
„ „ Fish Shops	9
„ „ Bakehouses... ..	10
„ „ Lodging Houses... ..	9
„ „ Ice Cream Manufacturers	13
„ „ Other places where Food is prepared	15
„ „ Offensive Trades	—
„ „ Workshops... ..	39
„ „ <i>re</i> Contagious Diseases (Animals)	86
„ „ <i>re</i> Complaints received... ..	455
„ „ <i>re</i> Housing	585
„ „ <i>re</i> Shops	—
„ „ <i>re</i> Conversions	126
„ „ <i>re</i> Defects	1465
„ „ to ascertain if work is in progress	788
„ „ of work in progress	161
Total	<u>3883</u>

(b) Resulting from Inspections, the following defects have been remedied :—

No. of House Drains and Water Closets opened and cleansed from obstruction... ..	94
„ Drains provided with efficient traps	2
„ Drains repaired and reconstructed	42
„ Dirty Houses cleansed and limewashed	4
„ Slopstone pipes repaired or disconnected from drains	3
„ Roofs of houses repaired and made waterproof	85
„ Defective Spouting repaired or replaced	47
„ Offensive accumulations removed	—
„ Defective Ashbins replaced	627
„ Ashbins <i>re</i> New Houses, Conversions, etc.	262
„ Defective Sanitary Pails renewed... ..	32

(c) Resulting from complaints received :—

No. of defects remedied	461
--------------------------------	-----

Shops and Offices.

There are in the Borough 585 shops. During the year 1948 no statutory notices were served and no action required in regard to the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

No action was necessary during the year under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to conditions in offices.

Bed Bugs.

No. of Council Houses found to be infested	...	...	I
„ „ „ disinfested	...	...	I
„ Other Houses found to be infested	...	...	II
„ „ „ disinfested...	...	...	II

Schools.

The water supply and sanitary condition of public elementary schools is satisfactory. No instance of school closure, for the prevention of spread of infectious disease, was necessary during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

The emission of Black Smoke from Factory Chimneys in the Borough is limited to 3 minutes per half hour.

Year	No. Observations Made	Number which emitted Black Smoke for times stated.										No. of Notices Served	No. of Legal Proceedings Taken
		No Black Smoke		Under 1 minute		Under 2 minutes		Under 3 minutes		3 minutes and over			
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
1939	75	16	21	21	28	31	42	7	9	0	0	0	Nil.
1940	29	2	7	9	31	17	59	1	3	0	0	0	Nil.
1941	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
1942	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
1943	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
1944	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
1945	87	24	28	23	26	38	44	2	2	0	0	0	Nil.
1946	120	15	12	24	20	71	59	10	8	0	0	0	Nil.
1947	85	9	11	48	56	27	32	1	1	0	0	0	Nil.
1948	20	2	10	7	35	9	45	2	10	0	0	0	Nil.

PREMISES OR OCCUPATIONS FOR WHICH BYE-LAWS MAY BE ENFORCED.

Offensive Trades.

There are two Offensive Trades carried out in the Borough, *vis.* :

Leather Tanners	...	...	...	1
Rag and bone dealer	...	...	...	1

Common Lodging Houses.

There is one registered Lodging House in the Borough, and four visits were made during the year.

The present Bye-laws were approved by the Minister of Health during 1932.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There are 6 houses let in lodgings in the Borough, the conditions of which are fairly good, and moderate, 5 visits were made during the year.

The present Bye-laws were approved by the Minister of Health during 1932.

Workshops and Workplaces.

There are 50 workshops and workplaces in the Borough, the general conditions of which are satisfactory.

HOUSING.

The present number of applications received by the Housing Agent for Corporation houses is 1,051.

From lodgers	545
„ householders	506
Total	1,051
For Bungalows	87
„ two bedrooms	694
„ three/four bedrooms	270
Total	1,051

OVERCROWDING.

Cases of overcrowding undoubtedly exist, and in some cases is aggravated by the tenant, who, in an already overcrowded house takes another family as lodgers.

It may well be that in such cases applicants hope to gain priority in re-housing, but whatever the reason, the practice is reprehensible.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	44
(i.) By the Local Authority	35
(ii.) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii.) By other bodies and persons... ..	8
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i.) By the Local Authority.... ..	36
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(A) Milk Supply.

The number of Dairymen registered to sell milk within the Borough is as follows :—

	Retail Trade only	Wholesale Trade only	Both Retail and Wholesale
Dairymen (Cowkeepers) within the Borough... ..	40	22	22
Do. do. outside the Borough	10	4	2
Do. (Non-Cowkeepers) within the Borough	9	—	—
Do. do. outside the Borough	11	2	1
TOTALS	70	28	25

The number of cows within the Borough is approximately 1,543.
The number of inspections of farms and dairies carried out was 122.

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1946 :—

Number of dealer's licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1948 in respect of —

“Tuberculin Tested” Milk :—

(i.) Bottling Nil (ii.) Distribution 9

“Accredited” Milk :—

(i.) Bottling Nil (ii.) Distribution Nil

“Pasteurised” Milk :—

(i.) Pasteurising plants Nil (ii.) Retail distributors 8

(B) Meat.

All slaughtering and inspection of carcasses are carried out at the Abbatoir, Bury.

The policy adopted as regards the prevention of contamination of meat in shops, stalls and vehicles, conforms with the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924.

The amount of unsound meat seized or surrendered during the year includes :—

Beef	...	...	...	...	8 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	26½ „
Ham	...	...	...	...	9¾ „
Potted Meat	...	...	...	...	62 „

Diseased meat is collected and disposed of under supervision, and is incinerated.

At the present time all carcasses are inspected at the Abattoirs, Bury.

2. The policy adopted as regards preventing contamination of meat in shops, stalls, and vehicles, etc., is carried out in conformity with the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

(C) Other Foods.

Inspections under the sale of Food and Drugs Act are carried out by the County Council. 100 samples were purchased in Heywood during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1948.

The amount of unsound foodstuffs surrendered during the year includes :—

Tinned & Packet Foods	...	...	...	18 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs.
Butter...	...	...	...	22 lbs.
Kippers	...	...	...	196 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	70 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	21 lbs.

Bakehouses.

The number of premises in which bread is made for retail and wholesale purposes is 57, and their condition is fairly good; 10 inspections were carried out during the year.

THE SEWAGE WORKS.

During the year ended December 31st, 1948, 586 million gallons of sewage and trade waste have been treated at the main Botany Sewage Works.

The sewage from the Heap Bridge district has been separately treated at the Heap Bridge Works.

The sewage has been strong in character due to the large volume of trade waste from tannery, dyeworks, etc.

6,000 tons of sludge have been removed from the Precipitation tanks, in addition to the detritus tank matter and screenings, and after processing by power presses the resultant sludge cake has been disposed of to farms in the district for use as manure.

The sewage is treated by a system of chemical precipitation and biological filtration at the average rate of 1,600,000 gallons per day. The greater part gravitates to the Works entering through a 4' 6" culvert, whilst the sewage from the low-lying Hooley Bridge district is carried by a low-level sewer and is then pumped to tank level.

The plant consists of Primary and Secondary Screens, Detritus Tank and Dredger, Lea Recorder, Precipitation Tanks, Biological Filters with mechanical Sprinklers, and Distributors, Humus Tanks and Ejectors, Sludge Presses, Electrical Centrifugal Pumps, Motors etc., Air Compressor.

Storm overflows are situated before the recorder and set in accordance with standard requirements.

A "Bell" Chlorinator, suitably modified, has been in use since 1946 with a view to improving the condition of the older Filtration Plant. The results from the experiments to date have been highly satisfactory.

Considerable trouble has been experienced from time to time due to trespass and interference with the plant; apart from this, results generally have been maintained at a satisfactory level.

THE DESTRUCTOR WORKS.

5,732 tons of household and shop refuse collected by the Health Department vehicles have been dealt with at the Destructor Works. In addition a considerable amount of trade refuse has been disposed of.

900 loads of gulley waste and street sweepings from the Surveyor's Department have been disposed of by tipping.

Salvage has played an important part in the year's working, 611 tons of miscellaneous salvage having been sent out at a value of £1,347, the main items being paper, textiles, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, bottles, jars, bones, cinder fuel, fine ash, cullet, etc.

The plant consists of Steel-cased Incinerator with Mechanical feed and hopper, Rotary Screen, Steam Plant, Power Baling Press.

Work has proceeded generally satisfactorily, but trouble has again been experienced in obtaining the necessary labour due to changes in employment.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

10 cases occurred during the year, all of which were treated in Hospital. No deaths resulted from this cause. 3 children, contacts of these cases, were excluded from school during the year.

The number of cases shows a decrease of 3 as compared with the previous year.

Scarlet Fever.

This disease accounted for 39 cases, 30 of which were treated in hospital. No fatal cases resulted in the series. 10 children, contacts of these cases, were excluded from School during the year.

Pneumonia.

Three new cases of lobar pneumonia were notified.

There were 16 deaths from this disease during the year.

Measles.

268 cases of measles occurred during the year, none of which proved fatal.

Scabies.

4 cases of scabies occurred during the year

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of cases of Infectious Disease notified, number of Deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to Hospital, and deaths in Hospital during the year 1948.

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.													Total Deaths	HOSPITAL.	
	Total Cases at all ages.	Years													Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65			
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.....	10	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	2	1	1	...	..	10	...
Erysipelas	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	..	2	...
Scarlet Fever.....	39	...	2	4	5	4	13	8	2	1	...	...	...	...	30	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Enceph. Leth. ....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis .....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	4	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Dysentery .....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...
Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Influenzal)	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	16	1	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	5	2	9	...	13	.....	6
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	.....	1
Whooping Cough	56	4	10	9	7	12	14	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	...
Measles	268	9	53	38	39	50	77	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Total	405	14	66	53	51	66	111	13	3	9	4	14	1	31	51	14

Bacteriological Examination.

The examination of bacteriological specimens is carried out at the Birch Hill Hospital Laboratory, Rochdale. 69 specimens were sent for examination, comprising of 58 Diphtheria, 11 Paratyphoid.

In order to facilitate the early discovery and treatment of Infectious Diseases, specimen containers, anti-toxin, etc., are in the hands of the medical practitioners in the Borough. These are dispatched direct to the laboratory.

The examination for Tubercle Bacilli, and of blood, etc., for evidence of Venereal Diseases comes under the purview of the County Council.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of infected materials arising from notifiable cases of Infectious Diseases is carried out by the Public Health Staff.

Steam disinfection of 350 articles was carried out during the year by means of a high-pressure "Thresh" Disinfector. In addition the fumigation of 43 houses by means of Formalin was carried out.

Tubercular-infected houses are disinfected, but no arrangements are in force whereby disinfection is carried out in cases of mumps, measles, whooping cough and chicken-pox.

Any Elementary schools in which any possibility of infection exists, are fumigated, or sprayed with liquid disinfectant.

All books belonging to the Public Library which have been exposed to infection are treated by fumigation before being again put in circulation.

In any case of Puerperal Fever, the overalls and outfit of the Midwife are disinfected prior to attendance on another case.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year the scheme of immunisation, adopted and commenced in 1939, was continued.

The School Clinic and Child Welfare Centre are used for this work, and the injections carried out by the Medical Officer of Health.

The type of prophylactic used is Alum Precipitated Toxoid for Active Immunisation. Two injections are given intramuscularly at intervals of one month.

During the year a total of 335 children, comprising 21 school children and 314 pre-school children, were completely immunised. A further 40 ceased to attend before completion of course.

Parents are urged to take advantage of this scheme.



TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of new cases notified, and number of deaths during year 1948.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES. *				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Years								
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
15—20	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...
20—25	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
25—35	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
35—45	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
45—55	6	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
55—65	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
65 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
TOTALS	14	4	—	1	7	6	1	—
	18		1		13		1	

* Including all Primary notifications and all other new cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during 1948.

During the year 1948 nineteen notifications of patients suffering from Tuberculosis were received. Of these, eighteen were notified as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and one from non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The non-pulmonary case is classified as follows:—

Cervical Glands 1

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Under the Public Health Act 1936, every birth and stillbirth must be notified within 36 hours of the occurrence to the Health Department, in order that advice, so often very necessary, upon the care and maintenance of the child may be given to the parents. Notification is the duty primarily of the father or any person in attendance at the time of birth and is separate and distinct from registration of births to the local registrar.

By means of notifications it is possible for a Health Visitor to pay the first visit to the home immediately after the doctor or midwife in attendance ceases to visit. This first visit as a rule is paid when the child is fourteen days old, at which time the midwife has completed her work. The object is to take over the supervision from the midwife and to carry this on throughout the child's pre-school life when, of course, the School Medical Service takes over the duties.

Under the Public Health Act, 454 live births and 17 stillbirths were notified.

The Health Visitors paid 192 visits on the 14th day, and carried out 701 subsequent visits to the homes of infants under 1 year of age. A further 781 visits were paid to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. Of these 111 were paid to children between the ages of 3 and 5 years.

The sale of dried milks, etc., is carried out by the Voluntary Committee, and in necessitous cases is supplied free of cost for babies under 12 months of age. It is a rule that no milk is obtainable unless the infant is weighed regularly.

One part-time Home Help was appointed, whose services were much appreciated.

The following table gives the attendance figures for the year :—

New Infants attended	169
Attendances—(a) Infants under 1 year	2765
(b) Children over 1 and under 5	398
(c) Expectant Mothers	841
Examined by Doctor—(a) Children	1312
(b) Expectant Mothers	841

An extra session per week was devoted to the Child Welfare Clinic and monthly Clinics were opened in the Birtle and Heap Bridge districts—two outlying areas of the town.

The assistance of the Voluntary Committee is of great value in this work, as many of the members are able to bring personal influences to bear, a factor of great importance in the success of any public welfare scheme.

Ante-natal Clinic :—

165 women attended the Ante-Natal Clinic during the year and made a total of 841 attendances.

In addition, 34 women attended for post-natal examination and made a total of 34 attendances.

Stillbirths.

By the Public Health Act 1936, all stillbirths occurring after the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health. 17 were notified during the year.

Dental Treatment :—

Arrangements are provided at the Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic for dental examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children.

EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

No. of Patients inspected	20
„ „ treated	28
„ Attendances	120
„ Teeth extracted	140
„ General Anaesthetics	16
„ Other operations	62
„ Scalings	1
„ Fillings	4
„ Referred for X Ray	1
„ „ to Dental Hospital	1
„ Dentures inserted (Full Upper)	4
„ „ „ (Full Lower)	4
„ „ „ (Partial)	4

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

No. of Children inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ „ treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
„ Attendanees	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
„ Teeth extracted	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ General Anaesthetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Other operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ Fillings	....	...	...	...	...	...	1

Death of Infants.

It is to the improvement in the health and conditions of work of the expectant mother that one must look in order to reduce the wastage of life which occurs at or immediately after birth.

The Infant Mortality Rate for 1948 is 35, showing a decrease of 10 on the rate for 1947. Two of the deaths occurred from congenital causes.

Crippled Children.

Seventy-three pre-school children were referred to the Orthopaedic Clinic and made a total of 133 attendances.

Premature Infants.

The scheme for the domiciliary care of premature children has been adopted.

The Municipal Midwives and two Queen's Nurses have taken a course of instruction in the care of premature infants at St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

In practice the nurses work as a team and take charge of any cases requiring attention.

All necessary equipment is supplied by the Local Authority.

Illegitimate Children.

The Council has joined the Scheme of the County Council for the care of Illegitimate Children for which the approval of the Ministry was granted.

Infestation.

The incidence of infestation has not been one of any gravity during the year. Such cases as occur are treated with Celetane.

CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG CHILDREN.--1947.

[illegible]

*This column includes all deaths in preceding columns

Home Visits carried out by Health Visitors.

Number of 1st visits to homes <i>re</i> babies under 1 year of age.. ..	192
„ „ revisits „ „ „	701
„ „ visits to homes <i>re</i> children over 1 yr. and under 2 yrs. of age	426
„ „ „ „ 2 yrs. „ 3 „	244
„ „ „ „ 3 yrs. „ 4 „	82
„ „ „ „ 4 yrs. „ 5 „	29
„ „ 1st visits paid to homes <i>re</i> expectant mothers	9
„ „ revisits „ „ „	—
„ „ visits paid to homes in connection with Stillbirths	4
„ „ „ „ deaths of Infants	6
„ „ „ „ Pneumonia	—
„ „ „ „ Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
„ „ „ „ Puerperal Fever..	—
„ „ „ „ other Infectious Diseases	—
„ „ visits where no access obtained	21
„ „ other visits	3
„ „ Baby Consultations excluding the above and those at Centre	—
TOTAL VISITS	<u>1,717</u>

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	Hospital				
1	1	—	1	—	—	—

Dr. M. Evans attends the Ante-Natal Clinic twice a month for the examination of ante-natal and post-natal cases.

121 cases were examined by the Obstetrician during the year. The following abnormal conditions were found:—

Transverse Presentation	...	...	1
Breech Presentation	...	...	16
Twin Pregnancy	...	...	1

Child Life Protection:—

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, a person who undertakes for reward the nursing and maintenance of a child under the age of nine years apart from his parents, or having no parents, shall notify the Medical Officer of Health of the Welfare Authority seven days before he receives the child.

- (a) Number of persons receiving children in the
Borough at the end of the year 8
- (b) Number of children:—
 - (i.) At the end of the year 8
 - (ii.) who died during the year Nil
 - (iii.) on whom inquests were held during the
year Nil

There are two Child Protection Visitors in the Borough, who are also Health Visitors.

10 visits were made during the year.

Nursing Homes:—

The Maternity Home re-opened in June, 1948.

Emergency Maternity Unit :—

By arrangement with St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, the services of a Maternity Unit comprising Doctor, Nurse and all necessary equipment are available in cases of urgency. Its services were required in one case of post partum haemorrhage.

St. Anne's Nursery.

The Nursery, opened in September, 1942, is for the children of mothers who are engaged on work of national importance. Accommodation is provided for 40 children—20 under two years of age and 20 from two to five years of age.

The Staff consists of a Matron, Deputy Matron, Warden and five assistants, all of whom have completed the Senior Child Care Reserve Course. In addition domestic help is provided.

The Nursery is open from 6-45 a.m. to 6-15 p.m. Monday to Friday.

The average daily attendance of children was 39.



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